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1
87. The apparatus of claims 72 or 73, wherein said nip is at least about 3150
kN/m²--

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, and in light of the following comments, is respectfully requested.

DRAWING OBJECTION:

The Examiner has requested that Figures 1, 4, and 5 be designated as prior art. The applicants have submitted the drawing amendments for the Examiner's approval. The applicants will present formal drawings upon indication by the Examiner of his acceptance of the proposed changes.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS:

In the Office Action dated January 8, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 38-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and also under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). Claims 38-42 have been cancelled and, as such, the Examiner's rejections are moot. New claims 52-87 have been added without the addition of new matter, as support for these claims is found throughout the specification, including the drawings.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the timely allowance of claims 52-87 is respectfully requested.

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If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this preliminary amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 8, 2002

By:


Barry D. Biddle
Reg. No. 44,033

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SIDE VIEW OF WIDE SHOE PRESS

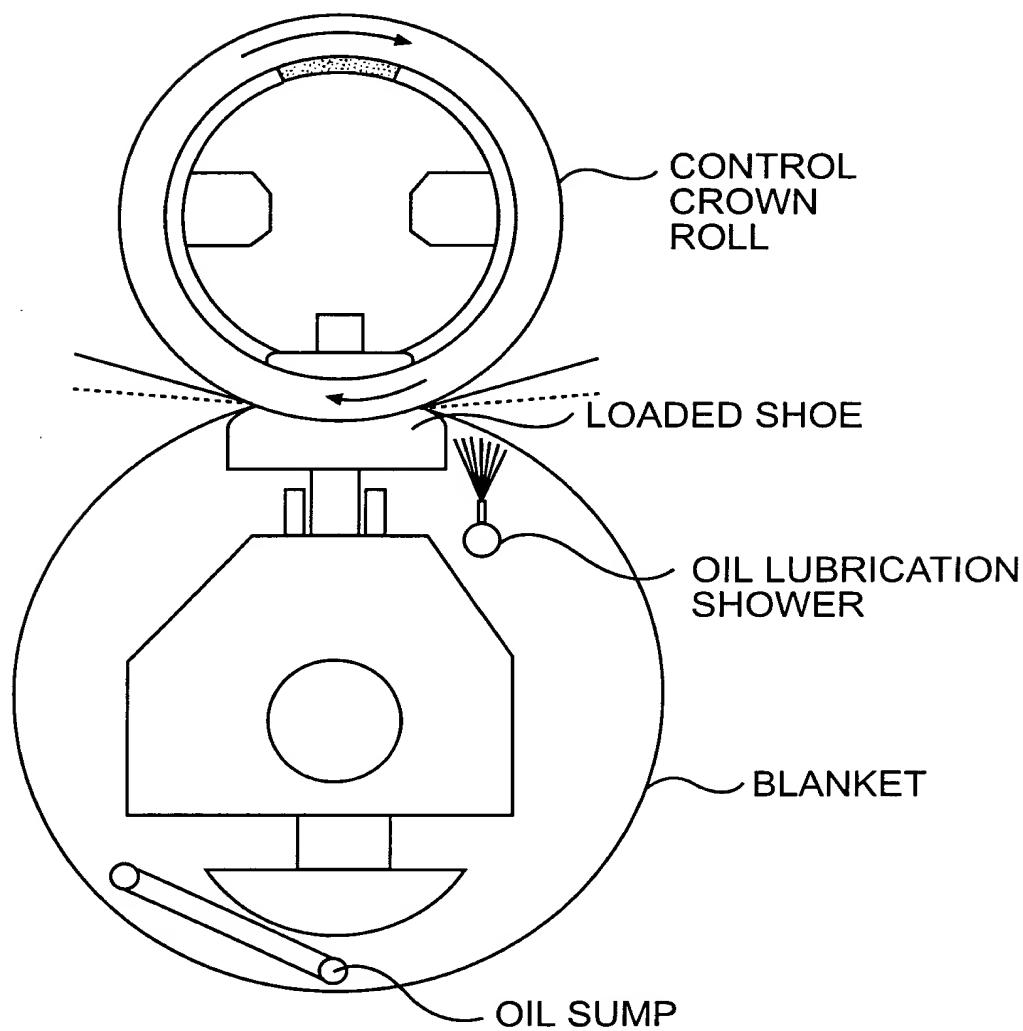


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

CONVENTIONAL WET PRESS PROCESS LAYOUT

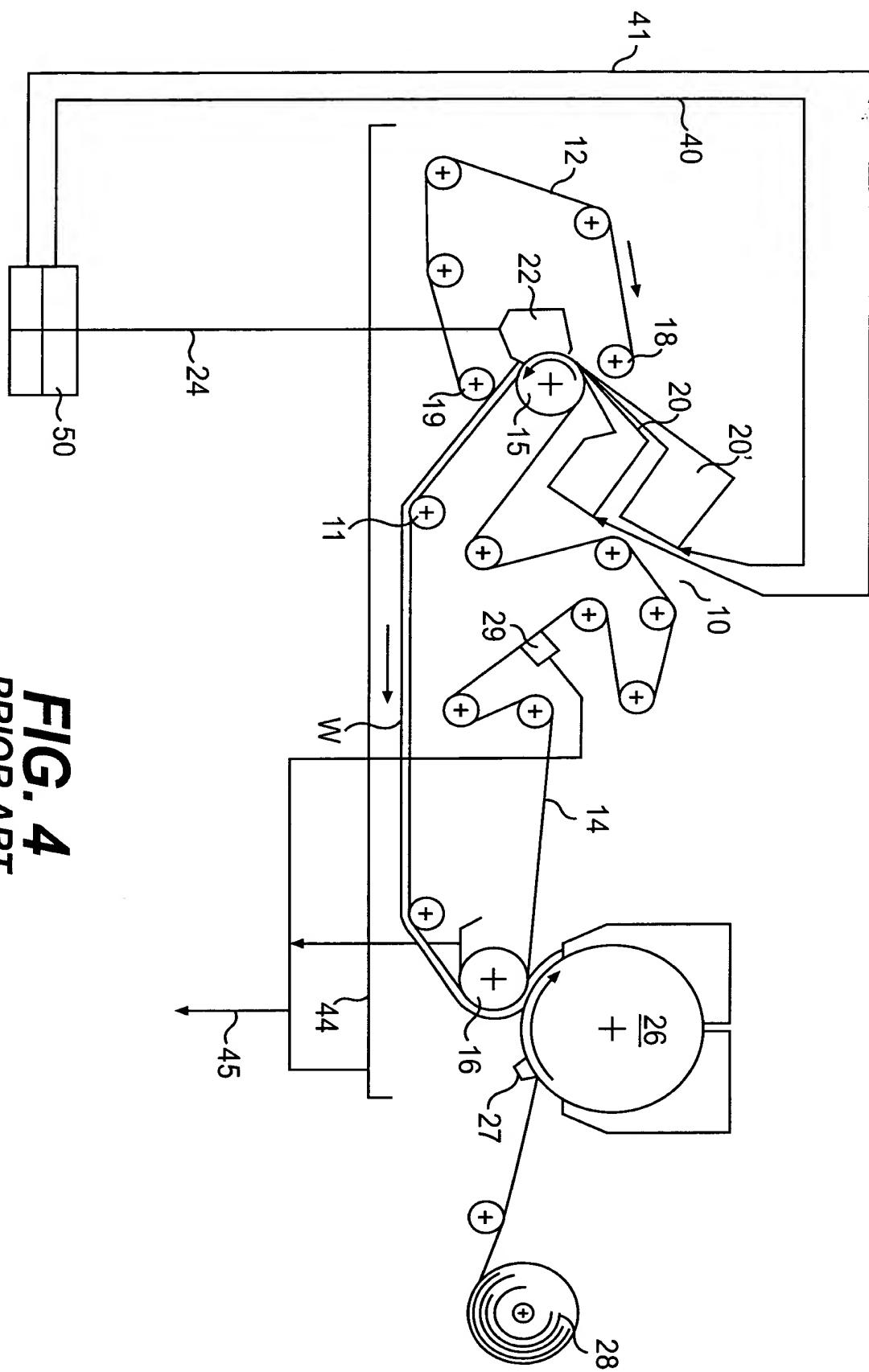


FIG. 4
PRIOR ART

FIG. 5
PRIOR ART

